

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-30 are pending in the present application.

This Amendment is in response to the Final Office Action mailed October 17, 2006 and in accordance to 37 CFR §4.133(b)(2). In the Final Office Action, the Examiner indicated allowable subject matter for claims 7-9, 17-19, and 27-29 if they are rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicants have amended claims 7-9, 17-19, and 27-29. Applicants are also filing an Appeal Brief to appeal the rejections to appeal the rejections of claims 1-6, 10-16, 20-26, and 30.

Allowable Subject Matter

In the Final Office Action, the Examiner indicated allowable subject matter for claims 7-9, 17-19, and 27-29 if they are rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicants have amended claims 7, 17, and 27 to include the limitations of the respective base claims and intervening claims. Accordingly, Applicants believe that the newly amended independent claims 7, 17, and 27 and their respective dependent claims are in condition for allowance.